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**California
Medicine**



EDITORIAL

An Important Meeting in Prospect

THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION at its annual meeting later this month will serve in two ways—one scientific, the other political—its continuing purpose of developing the best possible medical care and supplying it with the least possible encumbrance.

On the scientific side, this year's program appears to be one that will add to a growing momentum of quality for which the Committee on Scientific Assemblies and the various Scientific Sections are to be congratulated.

Politically, one outstanding problem among the many items of policy that will confront the House of Delegates, is the matter of finding the best ways to supply medical care to the aged and needy under recently enacted federal and state programs. To the end that the quality of care shall not deteriorate as it has in other nations of the world where the state has come between physicians and patients, the medical profession must maintain a strong line of influence in designing and monitoring the machinery by which the government plans are to be carried out. The deliberations and the actions taken by our House of Delegates to make these plans reasonably work-

able will of course be given studious attention not only by other medical associations but by interested governmental agencies as well.

Quite understandably in light of the rising quality of our scientific sessions in recent years, this component of the California Medical Association's burgeoning program of continuing medical education is attracting more and more attention from practicing physicians and educators the country over. Each year the Committee on Scientific Assemblies receives inquiries in increasing numbers from physicians in other parts of the land who contemplate attending our meetings.

On perusal of the program (see February issue of CALIFORNIA MEDICINE) it becomes quite obvious why we attract the attention of alert physicians who are interested in keeping informed of the newest and most practical developments in the field of medicine. Considering what we have to offer—an excellent program given at a time of year when climatic differences are a further inducement for physicians from other parts of the country—one need not be a gifted seer to predict that sooner or later the CMA will begin to advertise its scientific sessions well beyond the borders of our state and perhaps charge a moderate registration fee for out-of-state registrants.

Whatever the future of either our scientific meetings or the necessary concern of medical organizations with governmental machinery involved in the supplying of physicians' services to certain of our citizens, we can look forward to our meeting 19 to 23 March in Los Angeles as an important one.